

Hon. Allen Dulles

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Review of this document by OGC has determined that:

- ☐ OIA has no objection to release
☐ It contains information of OIA interest that may require classification at TS () S
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☐ It contains nothing of OIA interest
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January 15, 1954

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Dear Sam Anderson:

Last week you told me about the Soviet offer to purchase \$20-million worth of butter from us. Since then I have been thinking about it, and acquiring some additional information, including reading some Boston newspaper headlines.

I had originally assumed that the Soviets were coming to us for butter because they had exhausted the Danish supply. Had that been the fact, there would have been no problem from our standpoint other than the problem of the price we would charge the Soviets.

I now understand that the Danes have come to us through the Embassy here to say that they are very concerned about the prospect of our selling butter to the Russians.

In view of this fact, it seems to me that we ought to turn what is now very evidently Russian psychological warfare right back on them, as follows:

1. We should advise the Soviets that we are constantly concerned for the welfare of our allies. In this case, we understand that the Danes have the butter to sell to the Soviets at a reasonable price, and that we would prefer to have the Soviets deal with them, as their need is greater than ours.
2. For American consumption, we should let it be known that we have received an offer from the Soviets to purchase butter here, but that we have turned it down for two reasons -- first, Denmark's need is greater than ours; second, we would never dream of selling butter to a key member of the Soviet orbit at prices under what the Commodity Credit Corporation would charge the American housewife -- in other words, we are not going to subsidize the Soviet Union.

I honestly do not think that for \$20-million it is worth while falling into this trap.

Sincerely,

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Honorable Sam Anderson
Assistant Secretary of Commerce

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18 January 1954

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The attached was hand carried in from

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Mr. [redacted] office this morning.

*Copies to Barnes
Giles Lloyd + J.K.*
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